United Nations S/2004/287

Security Council

Distr.: General
14 April 2004

Original: English

Letter dated 6 April 2004 from the Permanent Representative of Ghana to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to bring to your attention the final communiqué of the ECOWAS extraordinary summit on the challenges of integration and development and NEPAD implementation in West Africa, held in Accra on 19 and 20 March 2004 (see annex).

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Nana **Effah-Apenteng**
Ambassador and Permanent Representative

04-31045 (E) 190404

Annex to the letter dated 6 April 2004 from the Permanent Representative of Ghana to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Economic Community of West African States summit on the challenges of integration and development and NEPAD implementation in West Africa

Accra, 19 and 20 March 2004

Final communiqué

The Heads of State and Government of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) met with the President of the World Bank, Mr James Wolfensohn at Accra on 19 and 20 March 2004 to review the integration process, and the implementation of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) in West Africa. The summit meeting was chaired by President John Agyekum Kufuor, President of the Republic of Ghana, Chairman of the ECOWAS Authority of Heads of State and Government.

It is to be recalled that, by the establishment of ECOWAS in 1975, all West African states committed themselves to the development of their national economies through regional integration. The decision made in 1993 under the ECOWAS Revised Treaty by West African leaders to deepen the integration process was re-inforced in May 2002 at Yamoussoukro when the ECOWAS Authority adopted a regional approach to NEPAD implementation in West Africa. It is further recalled that the World Bank adopted in August 2001 its Regional Integration Assistance Strategy (RIAS) for West Africa to facilitate a more organized and increased support to the deepening of regional integration in West Africa.

For the past three years, a strong partnership has been built between the World Bank and ECOWAS (Member States and institutions) as a means for a more effective implementation of the regional integration programmes and NEPAD initiatives. A manifestation of the importance of this partnership to the West African development process was the ECOWAS decision to hold a special summit on improving the regional approach and an enhanced World Bank participation in ECOWAS and NEPAD programmes.

Attendance

The summit meeting was attended by the following Heads of State and Government or their duly accredited representatives:

- His Excellency Mathieu Kérékou, President of the Republic of Bénin
- His Excellency Blaise Campaore, President of Faso
- His Excellency Yahya A.J. Jammeh, President of the Republic of The Gambia
- His Excellency John Agyekum Kufuor, President of the Republic of Ghana
- His Excellency Amadou Toumani Touré, President of the Republic of Mali
- His Excellency Mamadou Tandja, President of the Republic of Niger
- His Excellency Olusegun Obasanjo, President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria
- His Excellency Maître Abdoulaye Wade, President of the Republic of Senegal
- His Excellency Ahmed Teejan Kabbah, President of the Republic of Sierra Leone
- His Excellency José Armando Duarte representing the President of Cape Verde
- His Excellency Seydou Diarra, Prime Minister, representing the President of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire
- Honourable Mamadi Conde, representing the President of the Republic of Guinea
- Honourable Joao José Silva Monteiro, representing the President of the Republic of Guinea Bissau
- Honourable Wesley Johnson, Vice-Chairman, representing the Chairman of the National Reconciliation Government of the Republic of Liberia
- His Excellency Kofi Sama, Prime Minister, representing the President of the Togolese Republic.

The following organisations and institutions were represented:

- The World Bank
- The ECOWAS Bank for Investment and Development (EBID) Group
- The ECOWAS Parliament
- The Community Court of Justice
- The ECOWAS Gender Development Centre
- The UEMOA Commission
- The West African Monetary Institute (WAMI)
- The West African Monetary Agency (WAMA)
- The African Development Bank (ADB)
- The Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)
- The Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO)
- The NEPAD Secretariat
- The International Monetary Fund (IMF)

Review of West African development process

After an introductory presentation by Dr Mohamed Ibn Chambas, ECOWAS Executive Secretary, the summit reviewed the development process in West Africa. The meeting focused first on the challenges that have confronted the integration and development efforts over the years. It paid particular attention to the need to overcome fundamental development problems such as fragmented and unviable national economies which are undiversified and very vulnerable to external and internal shocks. It noted that the political and socio-economic instabilities have been disruptive of the development process and discouraged long-term investment.

The summit recognised the importance of a regional approach to economic development. In spite of the considerable effort made in the past, the meeting noted that integration process has hardly had any impact on development, principally because of low implementation of Community acts and decisions. It stated that pro-active measures needed to be taken if the region was to meet the millennium development goals. The summit,

therefore, urged greater commitment of Member States to the integration process and strong partnership with the World Bank. The summit called for bold action in key priority areas, greater emphasis on implementation, and effective regional mechanisms for monitoring and evaluating the performance of the various partners and stakeholders.

The Heads of State expressed their satisfaction at the increasing importance that the World Bank was giving to the promotion of regional integration through the implementation of its regional assistance strategy. The meeting noted in particular that the World Bank interventions were concentrated on ECOWAS priority integration areas such as the convergence of macro-economic policies; trade policy reforms; regional financial markets; regional infrastructure networks; the management of shared river basins; and facilitating NEPAD implementation particularly through institutional capacity building.

The summit was informed that the World Bank has initiated action to ensure that its country assistance strategies are developed from a regional perspective. The meeting recommended, in this connection, that ECOWAS countries should reflect the regional commitments and decisions in their national policies and programmes. The summit welcomed the preparation of a regional PRSP to complement national PRSPs.

Implementation of ECOWAS/NEPAD programmes

The summit commended the collective effort being made in West Africa to implement the NEPAD agenda within the framework of the Yamoussoukro Plan of Action. It stressed that the ECOWAS programmes were well aligned with NEPAD. At the invitation of the meeting, presentations on three key ECOWAS/NEPAD programmes were made by their Excellencies:

- President Olusegun Obasanjo of Nigeria on "**Sources and Effects on Conflicts in West Africa**"

- President Abdoulaye Wade of Senegal on **"Building Regional Infrastructure"**
- President Amadou Toumani Toure of Mali on **"Trade Reforms in West Africa"**.

The summit also heard presentations from the President of the UEMOA Commission, the Director General of FAO, the Chairman of the NEPAD Steering Committee, and also from representatives of ADB and ECA.

The Way Forward

The ECOWAS Chairman summed up the presentations by emphasising the renewed commitment of West Africa to the acceleration of the regional integration process. He stated that the regional approach to the implementation of NEPAD would facilitate the integration process. He stressed that particular attention would be paid to the three ECOWAS/NEPAD priority areas of trade, infrastructure and peace and security. While expressing the appreciation of the region to the World Bank for its growing support to the integration and NEPAD initiative, the ECOWAS Chairman appealed to the President of the World Bank to envisage novel ways of increasing and making more effective the assistance of the World Bank group. In this regard, the World Bank was invited to envisage the provision of additional financial resources, more technical assistance to West African countries, IDA regional allocation, budget support, project preparation and project financing, etc.

The President of the World Bank welcomed the declared commitment of the West African leadership to the regional agenda. He expressed the readiness of his institution to strengthen its partnership with West Africa. He called for a sustained and pragmatic approach to programme implementation to ensure that regional integration becomes truly operational. The World Bank President pledged continued support to the West African countries and their regional organisations. He agreed to the adoption of a well-focused

short-term plan of action for selected ECOWAS/NEPAD programmes, to be implemented by West Africa with the active support of the World Bank and other development partners, with periodic reviews to assess progress and compliance with the agreed plan.

Adoption of Accra Short-term Plan of Action

Following the deliberations on the presentations, the summit adopted a Short-term Plan of Action for accelerating the implementation of selected regional integration and NEPAD programmes. The plan of action covers the areas of trade (establishment of a customs union by the end of 2007, market access for West African exports); infrastructure projects (road transport and facilitation, energy and telecommunications); and peace and security (comprehensive approach to conflict prevention and resolution, Peace Fund). The plan of action also addresses institutional capacity building and envisages a regional mechanism for monitoring the implementation of ECOWAS/NEPAD programmes. A joint ECOWAS/World Bank task force was to be established for the purpose.

The plan of action is based on the principle of partnership and shared responsibility; first and foremost, among ECOWAS and its member countries, but also between West Africa and the World Bank. The plan of action also provides a framework for West African collaboration with its other development partners. The ECOWAS member countries renewed their commitment to the effective implementation of the provisions of the protocols on the selected priority regional programmes. It was agreed that periodic consultations between the ECOWAS leaders and the President of the World Bank would take place. The World Bank, for its part, committed itself to take all necessary measures to enhance its support of the regional agenda of West African countries.

Vote of thanks

The summit expressed its sincere gratitude for the warm hospitality extended by His Excellency John Agyekum Kufuor, President of the Republic of Ghana, the Government and people of Ghana. The meeting expressed, in particular, its appreciation to President Kufuor for his keen and personal interest in the regional integration process and his support for the ECOWAS peace plan for the region.

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Security Council

Distr.: General
14 April 2004

Original: English

Letter dated 5 April 2004 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to refer to article 13 bis, paragraph 2, of the statute of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991, which reads as follows:

> "In the event of a vacancy in the Chambers amongst the permanent judges elected or appointed in accordance with this article, after consultation with the Presidents of the Security Council and of the General Assembly, the Secretary-General shall appoint a person meeting the qualifications of article 13 of the Statute, for the remainder of the term of office concerned."

In this connection, I should like to inform you that Judge Richard May, a national of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, has resigned as a permanent judge of the International Tribunal, effective 31 May 2004.

The Government of the United Kingdom has presented the candidacy of the Honourable Lord Bonomy, a national of the United Kingdom, to replace Judge May. Please find attached his curriculum vitae (see annex).*

It is my view that Lord Bonomy meets the qualifications prescribed in article 13 of the statute of the Tribunal. I also consider that Lord Bonomy's appointment would be well calculated to ensure adequate representation on the Tribunal of the principal legal systems of the world, as contemplated in article 13 bis (1) (*c*) of its statute.

I should, therefore, like to proceed to consultation with you on the appointment of Lord Bonomy, in accordance with article 13 bis, paragraph 2, of the statute of the International Tribunal. I look forward to receiving your views on the matter.

(*Signed*) Kofi A. **Annan**

* The annex is being circulated in the language of submission only.

04-31008 (E) 150404

Annex

Curriculum vitae

The Honourable Lord Bonomy (Iain Bonomy)

Date and place of birth: 15 January 1946, Motherwell, Scotland

Education

Dalziel High School, Motherwell (1958-1964)

University of Glasgow, LL.B. [Hons.] (1964-1968)

Professional experience

1968-1970	Apprentice Solicitor, East Kilbride Town Council
1971-1983	Partner, Ballantyne and Copland, Solicitors, Motherwell, Glasgow
1984-1993	Advocate
1993	Queen's Counsel
1990-1996	Advocate Depute
1993-1996	Home Advocate Depute
1996	Senior Counsel to the Dunblane Inquiry (into the shooting of a number of young schoolchildren and their teacher)
1997	Senator of the College of Justice (Judge in the Court of Session and the High Court of justiciary, the highest courts in Scotland)

As an Advocate Depute, Iain Bonomy QC was one of a team of Crown counsel prosecuting exclusively in the High Court of Justiciary. As Home Advocate Depute, he was leader of that team. His functions included evaluating the evidence gathered alleging the commission of war crimes by residents of Scotland. At that time, an Advocate Depute committed about 75 per cent of his working time to the Crown Office (the national prosecuting authority in Scotland). Throughout his time in the Crown Office, he was involved in the preparation and presentation of the most serious criminal cases, including murder, serious contraventions of the Misuse of Drugs Act and conspiracies, and represented the Crown in criminal appeals.

Since Lord Bonomy's appointment to the bench in January 1997, he has sat regularly in civil and criminal cases at first instance, and from time to time in civil and criminal appeals. Between 1997 and the present day, about 70 per cent of his time has been spent on first instance crime. The principal criterion for prosecuting a case in the High Court of Justiciary is the prospect that, in the event of conviction, the sentence imposed would exceed 3 (shortly to be 5) years' imprisonment.

Lord Bonomy is the author of *Improving Practice — The 2002 Review of the Practice and Procedure of the High Court of Justiciary*, which is currently being implemented through legislation in the Scottish Parliament.

Lord Bonomy is a regular contributor to conferences on international child abduction and to judicial seminars on the role of the judge at the *Deutsche Richterakademie*.

United Nations S/2004/289

Security Council

Distr.: General
14 April 2004

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Letter dated 8 April 2004 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to inform you that your letter dated 5 April 2004 (S/2004/288) concerning the composition of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991, has been brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council. Having consulted those members, I support your intention to appoint the Honourable Lord Bonomy as a permanent judge of the International Tribunal.

(*Signed*) Gunter **Pleuger**
President of the Security Council

04-31020 (E) 150404

United Nations S/2004/290

Security Council

Distr.: General
14 April 2004

Original: English

Letter dated 12 April 2004 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to refer to your letter of 8 April 2004 (S/2004/289), concurring with my proposal to appoint the Honourable Lord Bonomy as a permanent judge of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991. I have received a corresponding letter from the President of the General Assembly. Accordingly, I have appointed Lord Bonomy as a permanent judge of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, effective 1 June 2004, for the remainder of the term of office of Judge Richard May, which term will expire on 16 November 2005.

(*Signed*) Kofi A. **Annan**

04-31014 (E) 150404

United Nations S/2004/291

Security Council

Distr.: General
15 April 2004

Original: English

Letter dated 2 April 2004 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to refer to article 12 bis, paragraph 2, of the statute of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994, which reads as follows:

> "In the event of a vacancy in the Chambers amongst the permanent judges elected or appointed in accordance with this article, after consultation with the Presidents of the Security Council and of the General Assembly, the Secretary-General shall appoint a person meeting the qualifications of article 12 of the present statute, for the remainder of the term of office concerned."

In this connection, I should like to inform you that Judge Lloyd George Williams, a national of Saint Kitts and Nevis, has resigned as a permanent judge of the International Tribunal for Rwanda, effective 31 March 2004.

The Government of Saint Kitts and Nevis has presented the candidacy of Sir Charles Michael Dennis Byron, a national of Saint Kitts and Nevis, to replace Judge Williams. Please find attached his curriculum vitae (see annex).*

It is my view that Sir Dennis Byron meets the qualifications which are prescribed in article 12 of the statute of the International Tribunal for Rwanda. I also consider that the appointment of Sir Dennis Byron would be well calculated to ensure adequate representation on the Tribunal of the principal legal systems of the world, as contemplated in paragraph 1 (c) of article 12 bis of the Tribunal's statute.

I should, therefore, like to proceed to consultation with you on the appointment of Sir Dennis Byron, in accordance with article 12 bis, paragraph 2, of the statute of the International Tribunal for Rwanda. I look forward to receiving your views on the matter.

(*Signed*) Kofi A. **Annan**

* The annex is being circulated in the language of submission only.

04-31143 (E) 160404

Annex

Curriculum Vitae

Sir Charles Michael Dennis Byron

Personal

Born 4 July 1943 at Basseterre, Saint Kitts, West Indies

Judicial experience

1999-present	Chief Justice, Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court
1996-1999	Acting Chief Justice, Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court
1990	Appointed Court of Appeal Judge, Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court
1986	Acting Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Grenada on secondment from the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court
1983-1990	Acting Court of Appeal Judge, Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court for 22 sittings of the Court
1982-1990	High Court Judge of the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court Resident Judge, Antigua and Barbuda Circuit Judge, Montserrat Criminal Assizes Judge, Commonwealth of Dominica Resident Judge, Saint Lucia

Current positions

Chairman, Judicial and Legal and Services Commission
President, Commonwealth Judicial Education Institute
Bencher, Honourable Society of the Inner Temple

Other professional experience

1966-1982	Private practitioner throughout the Leeward Islands with chambers in the Federation of Saint Kitts and Nevis and Anguilla

Past positions and affiliations

1991	Member of the Judicial and Legal Services Commission of the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court
1995	One of the four judges selected by the United States National Center for State Courts for the first United States-sponsored Judicial Training Project conducted on behalf of the Ministry of Justice of Haiti after the return of President Aristide
1998	Director, Commonwealth Judicial Education Institute

1999 Chairman, Commonwealth Judicial Distance Learning Committee

Member of a two-person task force mandated to promote the establishment of a regional centre for judicial education and reform, under the aegis of the Council of Legal Education at the Inter-American Development Bank Consultation on Judicial Reform in the Caribbean

Coordinator of Conference for Commonwealth Chief Justices, at the twelfth Commonwealth Law Conference, Malaysia

2001 International Bar Association, Zimbabwe Mission 2001. Member of an international group which undertook an assessment of the crisis facing the legal profession and judiciary in Zimbabwe

Education and academic awards

Secondary Saint Kitts-Nevis Grammar School, 1954/60
Leeward Island Scholarship, 1960

University Cambridge University, 1962/66
Graduated with MA, L.L.B. [Cantab.]

Professional qualification

1965 Called to the Bar at the Honourable Society of the Inner Temple as Barrister-at-Law of the High Court of Justice in England

1966 Admitted to practice as a barrister-at-law and solicitor in the Eastern Caribbean

Honours

2002 Conferment of the award of Knight Bachelor by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

Conferences

1994 Guest speaker, 125th anniversary, Supreme Court of the Netherlands Antilles and Aruba

1996 United States Government Roundtable II for Judicial Reform in Latin America and the Caribbean, Washington, D.C.

1999 Address to the Pan-Commonwealth Forum on Open Learning, on the subject of distance learning in judicial education, Brunei

2001 World Bank Conference on Security and Opportunity through Law and Justice, St. Petersburg, Russian Federation

Conference on Juvenile Reform, Saint Kitts

2002 Judicial Education Programme for the Judiciary and the Legal Profession, Paramaibo, Suriname

2003 Organization of American States, Inter-American Commission on Human Rights: working session on the implementation of international human rights protection, Washington, D.C.

Commonwealth Law Conference, Melbourne, Australia

Judicial Seminar on the Caribbean Court of Justice, Georgetown, Guyana

United Nations S/2004/292

Security Council

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15 April 2004

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Letter dated 7 April 2004 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to inform you that your letter dated 2 April 2004 (S/2004/291) concerning the composition of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994 has been brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council. Having consulted the members, I support your intention to appoint Sir Charles Michael Dennis Byron as a permanent judge of the International Tribunal.

(*Signed*) Gunter **Pleuger**
President of the Security Council

04-31149 (E) 160404

United Nations S/2004/293

Security Council

Distr.: General
15 April 2004

Original: English

Letter dated 8 April 2004 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to refer to your letter of 7 April 2004 (S/2004/292) concurring with my proposal to appoint Sir Charles Michael Dennis Byron as a permanent judge of the International Tribunal for Rwanda. I have received a corresponding letter from the President of the General Assembly. Accordingly, I have appointed Sir Dennis Byron as a permanent judge of the International Tribunal for Rwanda, effective today, for the remainder of the term of office of Judge Lloyd George Williams, which term will expire on 24 May 2007.

(*Signed*) Kofi A. **Annan**

04-31155 (E) 160404

United Nations A/59/72–S/2004/294

General Assembly
Security Council

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General Assembly
Fifty-ninth session
Item 58 (n) of the preliminary list*
Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations: cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe

Security Council
Fifty-ninth year

Note verbale dated 6 April 2004 from the Permanent Mission of Andorra to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The Permanent Mission of the Principality of Andorra to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to include herewith a letter of Juli Minoves-Triquell, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Andorra, in his capacity as Chair of the Forum for Security and Cooperation of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (see annex).

The Permanent Mission of Andorra to the United Nations would be very grateful if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

* A/59/50 and Corr.1.

04-31094 (E) 190404

Annex to the note verbale dated 6 April 2004 from the Permanent Mission of Andorra to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to write to you in my capacity as current Chair of the Forum for Security and Cooperation (FSC) of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). In accordance with the desire of the Forum, I respectfully request that the text of the present letter be circulated among member states of the United Nations, as well as UN officials and institutions, as an official document of the United Nations (General Assembly and Security Council), with the aim to increase interaction between different global organizations and to foster increased cooperation. As chair, Andorra shares the wish of the FSC to make its valuable work and goals better known. The FSC, a decision making body within the OSCE, deals with politico-military issues and meets weekly in Vienna.

The Forum is devoted to its traditional mandate of arms control, disarmament and achieving and fostering Confidence and Security Building Measures. The improvement of existing security building measures, their timely adaptation and, the development and implementation of new arms control agreements are key contributions to our political and military stability. A number of key documents guide the Forum. The Vienna Document of 1999 includes evaluation visits, inspections, observation, military contracts, risk reduction mechanisms, information exchanges and regional measures. The Code of Conduct on Politico-military aspects of security deals with the democratic control of military and security forces, international humanitarian law and principles governing the use of force, including in civil conflicts. Finally, the Document on Small Arms and Light Weapons sets out concrete norms, principles and measures to reduce the destabilizing accumulation and uncontrolled spread of these weapons.

Annual information exchanges under agreed CSBMs by the Participating States and the attention given to their implementation during the Annual Implementation Assessment Meeting serve as a valuable means of preventing conflict and managing crisis. In this yearly meeting experts review the CSBMs implementation and discuss the current and future implementation of the Document.

The Forum has also agreed on a number of other documents that establish common norms and principles related to conventional arms transfers, non-proliferation and localized crisis situations, as well as questionnaires on Anti-Personnel Landmines Convention and Chemical Weapons Convention.

In 2003 the work of the FSC focused on many issues arising from threats to security and stability in the twenty-first century. In accordance with its competencies and mandate, the FSC contributed to the OSCE Document on Strategy to Address Threats to Security and Stability in the twenty-first century, adopted at the Maastricht Ministerial meeting. The FSC contribution has proved the continuing relevance of our politico-military *acquis*, including possible adaptations and exploring new ways to adapt the documents to new threats and challenges.

Many activities were carried out during 2003 to ensure and foster the implementation of all confidence and security building measures. New threats require new responses and the OSCE Strategy to Address Threats to Security and Stability in the twenty-first century, presented in Maastricht, both reflects these concerns and attempts to find answers.

We are committed to prevent and combat terrorism, manifested in the FSC Roadmap for Implementation of the Bucharest Plan of Action adopted on 20 March 2002. The OSCE defends an integral vision of the struggle against

terrorism, both by controlling the arsenals and access to arms, and attacking intolerance and human rights violations that in many cases cultivate terrorism. This vision works not only to avoid the disastrous effects of terrorism but also attacks its structural causes.

FSC Decision 7/03, taken in July 2003, and endorsed at the Maastricht Ministerial, reflects the growing concern expressed by the OSCE participating States of the potential catastrophic threat posed by MANPADS. This Decision highlights the importance of effective and comprehensive export controls on MANPADS and calls upon participating States to use existing mechanisms under the OSCE SALW Document to destroy excess MANPADS. The importance of effective and comprehensive export controls for MANPADS must be seen as part of the FSC efforts to combat terrorism. A way to avoid the acquisition of these arms by non-state actors, such as terrorists and criminal groups, is currently under review by the FSC. In addition, the OSCE Strategy to Address Threats to Security and Stability in the Twenty-First Century insists that the OSCE should use all its tools to address proliferation of MANPADS. The Strategy document also encourages states to ensure the security and integrity of national stockpiles to guard against theft or illicit transfer.

The FSC has also tackled the question concerning the OSCE's contribution to prevent proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and thereby reduce the risk of terrorists gaining access to its components.

In this sense, it is essential to mention the effort of the OSCE/ FSC to co-operate with other international organizations, which share responsibilities on this matter. For instance, I would like to point out the presence of Ambassador Sune Danielsson, Head of the Wassenaar Secretariat, as a speaker to our Forum, on the 28th of January this year, and the discussions that followed, which we hope

will lead to the adoption of a new document to control the exports of MANPADS. This document was approved last December in the framework of the Wassenaar Arrangement.

The FSC agreed to expand the scope of information to be exchanged on national measures aimed at preventing and combating terrorism, and provided in States' responses to the Code of Conduct Questionnaire. According to Decision 16/02, taken in November 2002, the Code of Conduct Questionnaire was updated through the expansion of Question 1, which includes commitments toward preventing and combating terrorism, including the ratification and implementation of international agreements in this sphere. The participating States provided additional information on national efforts taken to combat terrorism in April 2003, responding to the 2002 expansion of the questionnaire.

Small arms and light weapons are also the weapons of choice for insurgents, criminals and terrorists. The FSC continues its efforts aimed at preventing a diversion of legally manufactured SALW into the criminal sphere.

In November 2000 the FSC adopted the Document on Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW). This Document is the leading tool in the OSCE's response to the excessive accumulation and uncontrolled spread of small arms, which have been of great concern to the international community, pose a threat to peace and security, and closely relate to high levels of violence and crime. This document also addresses MANPADS, as one part of the category of the light weapons. For the FSC, MANPADS can be addressed as part of the overall small arms framework.

The OSCE Handbook on Best Practice Guides, presented at the Maastricht Ministerial, complements the Document on Small Arms and Light Weapons and facilitates the ongoing and full implementation of the OSCE SALW Document. It

offers guidelines for national procedures for manufacture, marking and export and import control, through stockpile security and destruction techniques and small arms measures as part of disarmament, demobilization and reintegration. This year one of the goals of the OSCE is to help to introduce the content of the Handbook in the OSCE region as widely as possible. Indeed the handbook has had an impact on work being done elsewhere. General information about the Handbook of Best Practice Guides was presented at the UN Biennial Meeting on SALW in July. In addition, a UN First Committee consensus resolution (from its 2003 session) recognized the work of the FSC in combating illicit trade of SALW in all its aspects and was adopted by the General Assembly.

Currently, the FSC is addressing a proposal related to End-User Certificates. This proposal offers an opportunity for the OSCE to lead in the efforts to ensure tighter controls of small arms exports. Reaching agreement on the elements implicit in this decision would build on the standards provided for OSCE States in the Small Arms and Light Weapons Document and Best Practice Guides on SALW and reaffirm the OSCE's commitment and leadership in this area.

Last summer, Belarus made a request for assistance in the destruction of surplus stockpiles of small arms, thereby launching the practical implementation of the PC-FSC Decision on Section V of the SALW Document. Following a related seminar hosted by Belarus last October and attended by representatives of the FSC Chair and CiO, an assessment visit, as an element of the relevant mechanism, is planned to be held for the first time in Belarus.

In December 2003, the Maastricht Ministerial endorsed the OSCE Document on Stockpiles of Conventional Ammunition, which had been completed the month before by the FSC. This document enlarges the FSC acquis and tackles stock surpluses that can cause a risk to security, including environmental problems. It also establishes a mechanism for voluntary co-operation between States that ask

for assistance and those that are prepared to provide it. This mechanism is brought under the Forum's mandate. To continue making progress in addressing the dangerous stockpiling of conventional ammunition we must take the appropriate steps to ensure an expeditious implementation of the OSCE Document on Stockpiles of Conventional Ammunition now that it has been endorsed by the highest levels of the Organization. Appropriate steps should be taken to consider the request for assistance made by Ukraine in December 2003 and Belarus in March 2004.

In December, the OSCE decided to seek ways to share information about its principles, norms and standards and to involve the Asian and Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation in the activities of the Organization. The FSC has already moved forward on this by inviting the Partners to some of its meetings in order to increase interaction with them and to identify areas of common interest and concern and possibilities for concrete initiatives.

As you can see, the FSC takes its responsibility to contribute to the common security of the OSCE states quite seriously. But the work of the FSC is not necessarily limited to the OSCE region. As can be seen with the SALW Document, for example, we feel that the OSCE makes a contribution to global security. I hope this information about recent work in the FSC provides a basis for increased cooperation and interaction between organizations, particularly with the United Nations.

(*Signed*) Juli **Minoves-Triquell**
Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Principality of Andorra
Chair of the Forum for Security and Cooperation of the
Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe